

have the answers we need and that Sandra Bland's family deserves.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO CHANGE THE GUN LAW

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, we find some people so dangerous that we won't let them on a plane, but currently they can buy a gun. That makes no sense. How can you tell a person: No, you can't have that ticket, but would you like an automatic weapon? Would you like a machine gun?

That makes no sense.

If our law enforcement specialists, those that deal with this day in and day out, say to us this person should not get on a plane, how can we have laws right now that allow that person, then, to go right down to the store and get an automatic weapon and all the ammunition that he wants?

That makes no sense. In fact, the American people know that that makes no sense.

We need to change the law. We don't need a vacation. That is why we should be here right now debating these bills and doing something for the safety of our people.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO ADDRESS THREE CRISES

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority has decided to adjourn the House and take a 7-week vacation without dealing with the three crises that are pressing upon us now:

The epidemic of gun violence, a uniquely American crisis: every year, about 146 people die of gun violence in the United Kingdom, 71 in Denmark, 140 in Portugal, 30 in Japan—and 33,000 in the United States;

The Zika health crisis, which is about to give us thousands of terribly disabled babies; and

The Flint, Michigan, crisis, whose water was poisoned by the decision of the Governor's appointee.

We should not leave here without providing funds for Zika, funds without offsets and without irrelevant poison pills; we should at least enact a no fly, no buy bill and universal background checks to start dealing with the gun violence epidemic; and we should get Flint, Michigan, some drinkable water.

Let the majority deal with these three crises, then take a 6-week vacation if they want. But don't sentence thousands of Americans to die while you go off on vacation.

LEGISLATURE NEEDS TO GET ITS WORK DONE

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in Dallas, Texas, we saw a champion. We saw a champion in Police Chief David Brown and how he conducted himself. When asked about his responsibility, he said: We will continue to do our responsibility as police officers, as we do every day out in the field. But the legislature needs to do its responsibility. The legislature needs to get its work done.

Those brave police officers do their work every day, and yet this Congress has not.

Roosevelt said it best about our colleagues on the other side of the aisle: They are frozen in the ice of their own indifference—indifference to the slaughter that takes place in our streets, indifference to the more than 1,000 mass murders that have taken place, indifference to the threat of Zika and the spread of disease, and indifference to children in Flint, Michigan.

It is time for us to do as David Brown said, "Do your job."

WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, AND WHY

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, in the course of these 1-minutes, of which there have been over 50, thank you, Mr. CICILLINE, for bringing us together once again on the steps of the Capitol a couple of nights ago and now here in the Chamber.

When we are in school and they ask us to write about something, they say: Answer these questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why?

Who? Little children in Newtown, young people in Orlando, churchgoers in South Carolina, moviegoers in Colorado, again and again. The list goes on and on as to the vulnerability.

What? What? What? Slaughter of people. Mr. THOMPSON has repeated the numbers over and over again. But 91 people killed every night on the streets of our country, and we had 91 people in orange shirts on the steps of the Capitol last week to mention that. Over 1,000 mass murders since Newtown, mass murders being described as over four people being killed in any one instance.

What? What? What? Violence on the streets of our city, and even in our churches and other.

Who? What? When? Every day. Every single day with greater frequency and intensity. Most recently, in Dallas. So sad. An assassination of five police officers. Many of us spoke to that in the course of the last few days.

Where? All over the country. I just mentioned Dallas, and I mentioned some other venues earlier. All over the country, every single day.

But the main question is, Why? Why is this happening? Mayor Rawlings of

Dallas was very eloquent in his comments when he said: We must address the root causes of this. Yes.

But why are these guns so readily available? Because Congress will not act—refuses to act—on passing commonsense gun violence prevention legislation. No fly, no buy. Almost everyone in our country supports that—Republicans, Democrats, Independents, gun owners, NRA members.

Not the NRA. The NRA stands between any commonsense solutions and this Congress, which I think they own.

Why? Because some people think their political survival is more important than survival of little kids in kindergarten in Newtown.

Why is it happening in kindergarten classes? in churches? in places of recreation for young people? in theaters? in bowling alleys? You name it, it has happened there.

Why? Because we have not fully impressed upon the American people their role in lobbying Congress to make a difference. We are limited in what we can ask people to do vis-a-vis Congress, but they are unlimited in their advocacy and in their capacity. Nothing is more eloquent to a Member of Congress than the voice of his or her own constituents.

As JOHN LEWIS, our beautiful icon who has led us in all of this, has said: What we have to do is convince the average Joe—that would be J-O or J-O-E—of their power to make the difference in our country by making their voices heard to Members of Congress who have the power to vote for legislation.

We ask over and over again for the Speaker to give us a vote because we believe and have confidence in the American people that their voices will be heard and not ignored again and again and again and again by the Republicans in Congress, but will give us a vote that will make America safer and help us to honor—to honor—our oath of office to protect and defend the American people.

This has gone into the realm of hate crimes. The same thing in South Carolina. The same thing in Orlando. It must end.

But our message is clear: we will not end until this is over, until we get commonsense gun violence prevention legislation passed by the Congress of the United States.

I thank all of my colleagues for what they are doing. Our whip, Mr. HOYER, is leader on the floor for us. Thank you for orchestrating this with Mr. CICILLINE and so many others. I thank my colleagues for making the voices of their constituents heard here.

GUN LOBBY HAS BLOCKED EFFORTS TO PASS SENSIBLE GUN LAWS

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)